Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 3, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232 U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Steny Hoyer Majority Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-107 U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker and Majority Leader Hoyer:

We write today to encourage you to bring legislation back to the House Floor before the end of the 111th Congress that addresses two very important issues: extension of federal unemployment benefits for out of work Americans and a one-time \$250 payment to Social Security recipients. We thank you for your sustained and significant efforts in support of the most vulnerable members of our society. We understand the challenges of passing these two important pieces of legislation and are appreciative of your leadership on these priorities.

As you know, while our nation continues to recover from the worst economic climate since the Great Depression, unemployment remains unacceptably high. For our fellow Americans, who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own, it would be unconscionable to terminate vital unemployment benefits, particularly during the holiday season.

When the Social Security Administration announced there would not be a cost of living adjustment (COLA) this year, it became imperative that Congress enact a one-time \$250 payment to offset the zero COLA. As you are aware, approximately 54 million Americans rely on Social Security income to make ends meet, and we would appreciate your continued efforts to provide this much needed payment during these challenging economic times.

Thank you for your leadership and for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Mark

Richard E. Neal

Barney Frank

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Rosa L. DeLauro

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